

MPRI Advisory Council meets for details of statewide implementation



From left: Director Patricia L. Caruso, PSPA Deputy Director Dennis Schrantz, FOA Deputy Director Joan Yukins and Teresa Bingman, Governor's Deputy Legal Counsel and Criminal Justice Policy Advisor detailed the MPRI at the meeting.

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The Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative (MPRI) Advisory Council members learned the details of the State Policy Team's (SPT) plans to implement the MPRI Model statewide by the end of Fiscal Year 2007. Eight pilot sites are scheduled to begin this year.

Nearly 400 attendees gathered for the Advisory Council meeting held at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing on April 1.

They heard SPT member Robert Johnson, Senior Executive Director for the Department of Labor and Economic Growth and Chair of the MPRI Advisory Council, talk about how to make our neighborhoods safer and help former inmates become better citizens.

"The re-entry initiative is a network to help us reduce recidivism and develop safer communities," said Johnson. "The more that is done to provide safer communities and expand opportunities for ex-offenders, the better off we will all be."

The underlying thread of the day's presentations was the realization that returning offenders impact the entire community and that better preparation for their release can help control crime.

Ed Dore, Chief Deputy Director, Department of Community Health (DCH) and SPT Member, emphasized that the MPRI is a critical program to the DCH and the department is committed to its success.

Jim Nye, Department of Human Services (DHS), speaking on behalf of SPT member Laura Champagne, focused on the challenges of poverty, abuse and neglect that also drive many issues facing successful re-entry. He outlined some of the ways DHS is working to minimize those roadblocks.

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Doug Sites, Michigan Works!, addresses the audience as facilitator Jeff Padden, Public Policy Associates, listens.

Senior Policy Analyst, National Governor's Association and Kermit Humphries, Correctional Program Specialist, National Institute of Corrections (NIC). The agencies have supported Michigan's efforts since the MPRI was introduced in 2003.

"Re-entry is fundamentally a local issue and planning needs to begin at intake," said MacLellan.

Humphries agreed saying, "We call it transition to community and it starts with entry to prison."

Humphries also touched on some national trends which include re-entry programs for juveniles and female offenders. One thing both national presenters agreed upon was that the issue of re-entry is a local one, stressing that the state, regional and local levels all had to cooperate for it to work.

The NIC state coordinator for the MPRI, Jeff Padden of Public Policy Associates, facilitated a question and answer session lasting nearly an hour. Questions from the audience focused on the difficulty ex-offenders have finding jobs.

The consensus remains that the problem is even more pronounced in a state such as Michigan with higher than average unemployment rates.

"We either help them get jobs or we pay for it," said Doug Sites, Executive Director of Capital Area Michigan Works!, who offered the observation as a member of the audience. Michigan Works! is an active member of one of the first eight pilot sites. The agency has received a \$350,000 federal grant to assist re-entering prisoners with employment.

The meeting turned to the MPRI vision as Director Patricia L. Caruso, along with Field Operations Administration Deputy Director Joan Yukins, Administration and Programs Deputy Director Barry McLemore and Deb Scutt, Correctional Facilities Administration, explained how MPRI encompasses the entire corrections department.

"The significant difference about MPRI is the collaboration and teamwork," said Director Caruso. "It is a holistic approach to reducing crime, creating safer neighborhoods and getting people out of prison and keeping them out."

In addition, there is no question among corrections professionals that there is a tremendous cost associated with crime and that re-entry makes good economic sense.

"Michigan has the fifth largest corrections system in the nation and a budget of \$1.8 billion," explained Director Caruso. "It is not our goal to be the biggest. Our goal is first to run a safe and secure prison system, which we are doing, and second to get people out of prison and keep them out."

FOA Deputy Director Yukins agreed, "Anyone leaving the corrections system will be our neighbor and we want to ensure the ex-offender is successful upon release from prison and supervision. We want them to be a contributing member of the community."

FOA staff will soon have the benefit of statewide training on the MPRI to assist with the implementation.

"We can begin integrating resources and determining eligibility for community resources before a prisoner is released," said Nye. "We can deal with disability and the risks of reintegration to families. We can get a plan going that includes monitoring, safeguards and a community-based support plan."

Another key point reiterated throughout the program was the fact that providing a better chance for parolee success makes sense from a fiscal point of view as well as a safety standpoint.

"We are investing in prevention not treatment," said Nye.

The attendees heard praise for the MPRI and a national view of prisoner re-entry from Thomas MacLellan,

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Deputy Director Barry McLemore summed things up with a look at the bottom line. "We need to reduce the budget and the best way to do that is to prevent those folks from coming back."

The importance of the faith-based community in the success of the initiative was stressed by Greg Roberts, Director of the Governor's Office of Community and Faith-Based Initiatives. In a rousing presentation, Roberts expressed his staunch support of the MPRI and the critical role of the faith community in the effort.

Teresa Bingman, Governor's Deputy Legal Counsel and Criminal Justice Policy Advisor and Chair of the MPRI State Policy Team also offered praise for the work of the advisory council and stressed the importance of teamwork.

SPT member Deputy Director Dennis Schrantz, Policy and Strategic Planning Administration, is the manager of the MPRI. He explained the details on implementation and the critical role of local community coordinators. The SPT expects to fund the coordinators through a private foundation grant.

"Local community organizing is the heart of the MPRI," said Deputy Director Schrantz. "With the combination of state and foundation funding and the continued excellent work of our field agents, we will reduce crime. The biggest challenge is not about funding. It is about careful planning and consistent implementation of the model." *BYJ*

MPRI training under way in Saginaw



Saginaw Correctional Facility, one of the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative pilot sites, has stepped up training in preparation for the roll out of the initiative.

CFA and FOA staff were joined by Community Corrections personnel for a recent update on the program from Twyla Snow, manager of the office of offender re-entry.

Pictured at left are: SRF staff Ed Rosek, Administrative Assistant; ADW Susan Kohloff; ARUS Mike Norman; Classification Director Chris LaBreck; Special Activity Director Jim Pryor; ARUS Kevin Ott; Linda Matuszak, Records Office Super-

visor; ADW Val Chaplin; along with Brad Curry, Buena Vista Center; and Benita Snyder from the Saginaw County Community Corrections Advisory Board. They were among those attending the training.

Saginaw sponsors golf outing

The Sixth Annual Special Olympics Golf Outing sponsored by the Saginaw Correctional Facility is scheduled for Friday, June 17 at the Kimberley Oaks Golf Club, St. Charles. Check in time is 8:00 a.m. with a 9:00 a.m. shotgun start.

The cost for the four-person scramble is \$60 per person. This includes 18 holes with cart, refreshments, lunch and prizes. Registration deadline is June 1. For a registration form or more information, call (989) 695-9880: Sgt. Cory Crugher, ext. 1123; Sally Randall, ext 1126 or Erick Balcarcel ext 1124.

National Crime Victims Rights Week April 10-16



Lisa Carter and Lance Hebert Crime Victim Department Technicians staff the bake sale table.

This year marks the 25th commemoration of the National Crime Victims Rights Week (NCVRW). In recognition of NCVRW and the Michigan Department of Corrections' commitment to serving victims, the Crime Victims Services Unit

hosted a day-long bake sale on Monday, April 11. The \$382 proceeds from the sale were donated to the Crime Victims Foundation.

The Crime Victims Foundation's mission is to provide last resort assistance to crime victims in Michigan who have an immediate and critical need and for whom no other financial resource is available.

The foundation is nonprofit and works solely for the purpose of helping victims of crimes in Michigan and 100 percent of foundation funds are used to serve victims. It is operated by volunteers and is funded entirely by charitable contributions. *F.Y.I.*

Facts and figures

- 19,500 victims and other concerned citizens are currently registered for notification.
- In 2004, the department provided a total of 25,804 written notifications to registered individuals.
- Last year the Michigan Crime Victim Notification Network received a total of 10,071 telephone calls and made 38,312 outgoing telephone notifications to victims and other concerned citizens regarding prisoners within MDOC.
- The Michigan Crime Victim Notification Network also features the ability for victims and others to call the telephone system 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to determine a prisoner's current location, facility address information and earliest release date.

New screensavers coming soon

Thank you to everyone who submitted a Michigan sunset photo for screensaver consideration. The response has been overwhelming and the photos are outstanding.

You may now begin submitting your .jpg photos of Michigan waterfalls. They will be the next screensaver subject. Be sure to include your name, worksite and location of the photo.

Send your photos to Tammy Lott at lotttm@michigan.gov. *F.Y.I.*

Standish Max remembers 15 years



Standish Maximum Correctional Facility commemorated its 15-year anniversary on March 30. Staff observed the event with a luncheon and added to the festivities by decorating the area with old photos of original staff, newspaper clippings and *FYJ* articles. Retired staff were also included in the lunch.

A Powerpoint presentation provided trivia pointing out that 11,700 prisoner work details had been filled and 368,650 rounds of .223 ammo had been used in training over the past 15 years.

FYJ

RUO Keith Grandsen, RUO Jeff Watson, C/O Bobbi Tripp, C/O Todd Wetters and C/O Chris Conachan join coworkers for lunch.

Sgt. Tom Bonnau (left) and RUO Pete Salinas make their selection at the luncheon.



Camp Lehman officer selected as finalist

Lieutenant Harold “Bud” Sprowl, Camp Lehman (CLE/SMF), has been selected as a 2005 Supervisor of the Year finalist by the International Association of Correctional Officers (IACO).

Although Lt. Sprowl did not receive the top honor, his admirable qualifications earned him a place among the top six of IACO Supervisor of the Year nominees nationwide.

According to the IACO, Lt. Sprowl’s demonstrated leadership within the corrections field showcased him as an outstanding candidate to the IACO selection committee.

Lt. Sprowl joined the department in 1994 as a Corrections Officer and has been a Lt. at CLE/SMF since 1998. He is a certified NRA firearm instructor and continues to take educational courses to enhance his professionalism.

In addition, Lt. Sprowl is active in his community. Along with rescuing three children from drowning in two separate incidents, he was on hand to deliver a baby on the seat of a pickup truck before the ambulance could arrive.

“We are extremely proud of Bud for this accomplishment,” said Warden Thomas Birkett. “He is an example to all our officers at CLE/SMF.” *FYJ*



Lt. Harold “Bud” Sprowl

Mark your calendar for the Wheels for Wishes Ride

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he fifth annual Wheels for Wishes Charity Ride is scheduled for Saturday, July 16, 2005. Proceeds go to the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation.

Motorcycle enthusiasts are invited to gather at the Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility, 1727 Bluewater Hwy, Ionia (three miles west of the M-21 and M-66 intersection) for the ride to the Doherty Hotel at 604 North McEwan Street in Clare. Departure time is 10:00 a.m. You may also join the ride along the way or at the pit stop planned for the Petticoat Junction Truck Stop in St. Louis at 11:00 a.m.

Registration with free coffee and doughnuts begins at 9:00 a.m. A donation of \$25 per bike is requested and can be made on site or by pre-registration to Wheels for Wishes, 708 North Rainbow Drive, Claire, MI 48617. Lunch will be available at the hotel for an additional \$8.00. Wheels for Wishes Logo t-shirts (2004) are available for \$20 by pre-registering for the ride. *F.Y.I.*

Annual hockey event raises funds



On April 3 hockey players from Macomb County Probation, Wayne County Court Services, Marquette Branch Prison, and Baraga Maximum Correctional Facility gathered at the Joe Louis Arena for a charity hockey game to benefit the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. Joining MDOC players in this event were police officers from Warren, St. Clair Shores and Fraser.

A check for \$5,369 was presented to Ken Hines of the Law Enforcement Torch Run Executive Committee.

This year marked the fourth time that MDOC hockey players have played at the Joe Louis Arena in support of Special Olympics. To date the event has raised more than \$25,000 for the charity.

Participants from Marquette Branch Prison included Eric Mason, Tony Rabitaille, Bruce Velmer, Cason Tallio, and Mike Baker. Also playing were Dean Turriff, Baraga Maximum Correctional Facility; Alan Gandini, Wayne County Court Services; and Sean Rumohr, Tim Malone, Mark Kelley, Jeff Konal and Mike Buggy from Macomb County Probation. *F.Y.I.*

Hiawatha staff honored



Lt. Alan Horton, Deputy Fred Hancock, Warden Linda Metrish, Deputy Keith Fecteau and C/O Lynn Carrick.

Two Hiawatha Correctional Facility staff were awarded the Michigan Department of Corrections Lifesaving Award for their actions in separate incidents recently.

Lieutenant Alan Horton received the award as a result of his efforts in saving the life of a woman who was accidentally swept downstream at a bridge on the Munuscong River due to flooding conditions.

Lt. Horton and his wife Shelly began first aid and called an ambulance. They helped the victim to the ambulance, assisted the Emergency Medical Team and then contacted the victim's husband.

Their actions directly contributed to saving their neighbor from hypothermia. Lieutenant Horton has sixteen years with the Michigan Department of Corrections. Shelley Horton works for the MDOC at the Regional Health Services Office as a Regis-

tered Nurse Director.

"Al and Shelly's actions bring great credit to themselves and the MDOC. Al has demonstrated the professionalism and willingness to become involved which is typical of Michigan Department of Corrections staff," said Warden Linda Metrish.

The Michigan Department of Corrections Lifesaving Award was also presented to Corrections Office Lynn Carrick for his efforts in saving the life of a woman who was preparing to jump into the Edison Sault Power Canal.

Carrick is a fifteen-year veteran of the Michigan Department of Corrections Hiawatha Correctional Facility. No stranger to lifesaving situations, approximately two years ago Carrick saved a fellow officer from choking by applying the Heimlich maneuver.

"Lynn's quick analysis of an unexpected situation and willingness to become involved are typical of what we have come to expect of him. His response to an emergency situation is typical of the actions we encourage in department staff," said Warden Metrish. *343*

19th Annual Golf Outing to benefit Special Olympics

The 19th Annual Golf Outing to benefit Special Olympics is Friday, June 10 at the Hartland Glen Golf Club, 12400 Highland Road, Hartland (248-887-3777).

Registration begins at 8 a.m. with a shotgun start at 9:30 a.m. The \$260 per team cost includes: 18 holes with cart, coffee, doughnuts, country BBQ dinner and two drink tickets. Also included are flights, skins, prize raffles and contest holes. For registration information contact: Kim Eisenbeis at Eisenbkl@michigan.gov. *343*

Lansing Polar Plunge raises \$14,000



The Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics raises funds throughout the year with numerous activities and events.

However, it's the polar plunges that always seem to garner their fair share of attention through a combination of wonderment and dismay. When the thermostat registers below freezing, jumpers don their most festive and creative attire for the opportunity to submerge themselves in the icy water.

This year Lansing hosted its first Polar Plunge for Special Olympics raising \$14,000 for the charity.

The costume contest is always a big event at the plunges as participants vie for the Traveling Golden Plunger Award with the prize going to the best costume.

At left is an example of just one of the incredibly creative costumes that participants showcased at the Lansing plunge. [F.Y.I.](#)

Muskegon area raises money for cystic fibrosis



From left: Jason Carlson, Joe Kemp, Leslie VanDeusen, Scott Wade, Deb Larson, Kathy Mayer, Mary Luna, Don Cole, Kathy Danhof, John Arnoldi, Jodi Langlois, Debbie Visger and Steve Farrell

Karlie arrived at the event in a horse-drawn Cinderella carriage. A ball befitting a princess was held at the Holiday Inn following the coronation. Hospitals are nothing new to Karlie and, unfortunately, she was admitted to DeVos Children's Hospital the day after the event. [F.Y.I.](#)

Beginning January 1 the Muskegon Parole/Area Office began designating their quarterly dress down dollars to go to cystic fibrosis (CF). They had a very special reason to select this organization. Mary Luna, secretary at the Muskegon Parole Office, has a granddaughter who was diagnosed with CF when she was three months old. Karlie is now seven.

Muskegon area DOC staff are not the only ones working to make life better for CF patients. The Make-A-Wish Foundation made a dream come true for Karlie when she was honored on March 13 as Princess for a Day.

At her coronation, Miss Michigan crowned and presented Karlie to a crowd of over 1,300 people at the Muskegon Frauenthal Theater as part of the Make-A-Wish ceremony.